PTO/SB/30 (08-00) Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a col

REQUEST **FOR** CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

TRANSMITTAL

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

ection of information unless it displays a valid OWB control number.			
Application Number	09/080,861		
Filing Date	May 18, 1998		
First Named Inventor	Hiroshi Endo et al.		
Group Art Unit	2624		
Examiner Name	T. Lee		
Attorney Docket Number	01272.006808.2		

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.							
1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114							
a. 🗓 Pre	a. X Previously submitted						
i. X	i. X Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on April 25, 2005 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).						
ii. 🗀	i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on						
b. 🗓 End	closed		05/23/2005 SZEWDIE1 00	0000037 09080861			
i · ii	Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)		01 FC:1801	790.00 OP			
iii. L iv. X	· '						
2. Miscellaneous							
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)							
b. Other							
3. Fees The	RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1	.114 when the R0	CE is filed.				
a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. <u>06-1205</u>							
i. X RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) ii. X Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)							
iii. \Box	Other						
b. LXJ Checks in the amount of \$ 790.00 (RCE)and \$120.00 (extension) are enclosed.							
c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)							
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED							
Name (Print/Type)	Frank L. Cire		No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,419			
Signature	188	Date	May 19,	2005			
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION							
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:							
Name (Print/Type)							
Signature	Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to com	Date Date	why depending upon the needs of th	ne individual case. Any			

comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.